

**BOARD OF GAME AND INLAND FISHERIES  
4000 WEST BROAD STREET  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23230**

**AUGUST 21, 2007**

**Present:** James W. Hazel, Chairman, Richard E. Railey, Jr. Vice-Chairman, Dr. William T. Greer, Jr.; John W. Montgomery, Jr., Sherry S. Crumley, C. T. Hill, Randy J. Kozuch, Charles S. Yates, Thomas A. Stroup and Mary Louisa Pollard; **Absent:** Ward Burton; **Legal Counsel:** Roger Chaffe; **Director:** J. Carlton Courter, III; Senior Staff: Colonel Mike Bise, Raymond E. Davis, Bob Duncan, Charlie Sledd, David Whitehurst, Gary Martel.

Mr. Hazel called the meeting to order at 9:00a.m. The Mission Statement was read into the record and Colonel Mike Bise lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. A quorum was present.

**Public Comments – Non Agenda Items:** The Chairman called for Public Comments – Non Agenda Items. He invoked the following rule for persons making comments: Five minutes if you are representing an organization or group and three minutes for individuals.

Ms. Susan Steger, Catawba, Virginia, who is a lifetime member of the Virginia Bear Hunters Association. Ms. Steger spoke regarding the partnership between the Virginia Bear Hunters Association and the DGIF Board and Agency. She also suggested Board Members place brief biographies on the DGIF Web site.

Mr. David Steger, Catawba, Virginia, who is a lifetime member of the Virginia Bear Hunters Association and is currently the Region 2 Director. Mr. Steger spoke regarding night bear hound chase season and increasing the working relationship between the Virginia Bear Hunters Association with DGIF and legislators for regulation changes.

Mr. Este Fisher, Mount Crawford Virginia, who is a lifetime member of the Virginia Bear Hunters Association and he is also the legislative representative for the Association, spoke regarding the bear dog training season.

Mr. Wayne Ball, Raven, Virginia, requested a regulation change for the existing bear chase season in Southside Virginia to include the following counties: Mecklenburg, Lunenburg, Brunswick and Greenville to be open concurrent with the opening and closing dates with the dates in the rest of the state.

Mr. Charles Montgomery, Buchanan, Virginia, who is the Vice President of the Virginia Bear Hunters Association, requested the increase of the bear hound hunting season by

one additional week in the last week in October or one additional week the first week in November.

Mr. Larry Mustard, Tazewell, Virginia, who is a member Virginia Bear Hunters Association and he represents District 3 of the Virginia Bear Hunters Association. Mr. Mustard's District is requesting the month of January be added to the Bear Hound Hunting Season.

Ms. Carrie Crawford, New Castle, Virginia, serves as the Secretary of the Virginia Bear Hunters Association, ~~spoke regarding bear hunting and dog retrieval in adjoining counties.~~ She requested the Agency draft a reciprocal agreement for dog retrieval with adjoining states. *Corrected as requested in the October 16, 2007 minutes*

Mr. Warren Radford, Radford, Virginia, who is the President of the Virginia Bear Hunters Association, spoke regarding the proper feeding of bears and other wildlife.

Ms. Crumley requested the Board Members be added to the Virginia Bear Hunters Association mailing list so Board Members can attend the association meetings in their area.

The Chairman stated he heard different requests on timing for hunting seasons from the Association and asked the staff to review their request.

Mr. Vins Thornhill, Richmond, Virginia stated that he is opposed to the current recommendations by the staff to continue the moratorium on the mallard release permit areas as the elimination practice of free range mallard releases in the state.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attendance and their remarks.

**Recognition of Employees and Others:** The Chairman called upon the Director, J. Carlton Courter, III to recognize the presenters.

Mr. Courter recognized Mr. Charlie Sledd who presented the "Virginia Boating Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award" from NASBLA (National Association of State Boating Law Administrators) to Senior Officer James H. Hale. On behalf of the Board, the Chairman thanked Mr. Hale for his outstanding service and dedication.

Mr. Courter recognized Colonel Mike Bise who presented the "Shikar Safari Award" to the Officer of the Year, Mr. Charlie Mullins.

Captain Bobby Mawyer, program manager, for the Virginia Hunter Education Program introduced Mr. Vernie Kennedy, President of the Virginia Hunter Education Association. Mr. Kennedy introduced the 2007 Officers: Mr. Robb Zepp, Vice President; Ms. Kathy Shamblin, Secretary; and Mr. Danny Bartee, Treasurer. The Virginia Hunter Education Association is comprised of hunter education volunteer instructors from throughout the Commonwealth. The association was formed in the spring of 2007 with the mission of

enhancing and promoting hunter education in Virginia. The group currently has 120 members and 10 associate members. Short-term goals are to create and operate a website for the sharing of instructional ideas and efforts.

The Chairman thanked all of the officers for their leadership in this Association and their continuation of providing Hunter Education Programs for Virginia Hunters.

The Director, J. Carlton Courter, III, presented Mr. Lee Graves a Certificate of Appreciation for his service as an advocate for hunting, fishing, boating and wildlife watching through his outdoor column in the ***Richmond Times Dispatch***, the state newspaper, and for informing the public about conservation issues, recreation opportunities, important regulations, programs and services, many offered by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Graves for his service and wished him well on his new endeavors.

**Proposed Model Ordinances for Hunting with FireArms:** The Chairman recognized Mr. Courter who called upon Colonel Mike Bise for the presentation.

Colonel Bise gave the following presentation:

### **(GAME) Firearms**

#### **4 VAC 15 – 270 – 80 Model Ordinances related to Hunting with Firearms for Counties and Cities**

Per the provisions of 29.1-528(A), Code of Virginia, the following model ordinances related to hunting with firearms may be adopted by counties and cities. In accordance with 29.1-528(B), no such ordinance shall be enforceable unless the governing body of the locality notifies the Director by registered mail prior to May 1 of the year in which the ordinance is to take effect.

##### Model Ordinance 1:

It shall be unlawful to hunt with a rifle larger than .22 caliber rim fire.  
Any person who violates the provisions of this ordinance shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor.

*(If adopted by the impacted localities, this model will address numbers 2, 7, 8, 28, 47, 71 and parts of 57 and 62 in the “hunting and Trapping in Virginia” digest)*

##### Model Ordinance 2:

It shall be unlawful to hunt with a rifle larger than .22 caliber rim fire,

except rifles of a larger caliber may be used for hunting groundhogs between March 1 – August 31. Any person who violates the provisions of this ordinance shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor.

*(If adopted by the impacted localities, this model will address numbers 4, 6, 24, 38 and 42 in the “Hunting and Trapping in Virginia digest”)*

Model Ordinance 3:

It shall be unlawful to hunt with a rifle larger than .22 caliber rim fire, except rifles of a larger caliber may be used to hunt from a stand elevated at least 10 feet from the ground. Any person who violates the provisions of this ordinance shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor.

*(If adopted by the impacted localities, this model will address numbers 40, 51, 60 and part of 29 and 44 in the “Hunting and Trapping in Virginia” digest)*

Model Ordinance 4:

Muzzleloading rifles may only be used to hunt from a stand elevated at least 10 feet from the ground. Any person who violates the provisions of this ordinance shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor.

*(If adopted by the impacted localities, this model will address numbers 13, 32, 40 72 and part of 44 in the “Hunting and Trapping in Virginia” digest)*

Model Ordinance 5:

Muzzleloading rifles firing a single projectile may not be used to hunt between April 1 – May 31. Any person who violates the provisions of this ordinance shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor.

*(If adopted by the impacted localities this model will address numbers 17, 33, 39, 53 and parts of 50, 57, and 62 in the “Hunting and Trapping in Virginia” digest)*

Model Ordinance 6:

It shall be unlawful to hunt with shotguns loaded with slugs. Any person who violates the provisions of this ordinance shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor.

*(If adopted by impacted localities this model will address numbers 9 and part of 45 in the “Hunting and Trapping in Virginia” digest)*

Model Ordinance 7:

It shall be unlawful to engage in hunting with a firearm within the right-of-way of any primary or secondary highway. Any person who violates the provisions of this ordinance shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor.

*(If adopted by impacted localities this model will address numbers 11, 14, 16, 26, 27, 43, and 61 in the “Hunting and Trapping in Virginia” digest)*

Model Ordinance 8:

It shall be unlawful to engage in hunting with a firearm within 100 yards of any primary or secondary highway. Any person who violates the provisions of this ordinance shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor.

*(If adopted by impacted localities this model will address numbers 18, 25, and part of 29 in the “Hunting and Trapping in Virginia” digest)*

Depending on adoption by localities, potential net results might be reducing the numbers of local ordinances applicable to hunting with firearms and contained in our “hunting digest” from 73 to fewer than 35; removing redundancies and fragmentation, reducing confusion, and enhancing enforceability.

The staff is recommending that the Board propose these model ordinances as a regulation and be published for advertisement.

After a brief discussion, the Chairman called for a motion. **Dr. Greer made the following motion: Mr. Chairman, I move that the Board propose the new regulation containing model ordinances as recommended by staff. Motion seconded by Mary Louisa Pollard. Ayes: Hazel, Railey, Greer, Montgomery, Hill, Kozuch, Yates, Stroup, Crumley and Pollard.**

**Migratory Bird and Waterfowl Seasons 2007-2008:** Mr. Bob Duncan made the following presentation:

**2007-2008 Waterfowl Seasons and Bag Limits  
Federal Frameworks and Staff Recommendations**

**General Duck Season**

**Federal Framework**

<b><u>Outside Dates:</u></b>	September 22-January 27
<b><u>Season Length:</u></b>	60 hunting days; plus 2-day Youth Waterfowl Hunt*
<b><u>Bag Limit:</u></b>	Daily Bag limit of 6 ducks and may include no more than 4 mallards (only 2 of which may be hen mallards), 4 scoters, 2 wood ducks, 2 redheads, 2 scaup, 2 canvasback, 1 pintail, 1 black duck, 1 mottled duck, and 1 fulvous whistling duck.

The possession limit is twice the daily bag limit. Closed season on Harlequin duck

Note: There is an option to include mergansers in the general duck bag or leave them as a separate bag (see Merganser framework below). If included in the general duck bag, the restriction on 2 hooded mergansers would apply.

**Split Season Options:** 3-way split season, no zones

**Shooting Hours:** ½ hour before sunrise until sunset daily

**Staff Recommendations:**

**Season Length:** 60 hunting days; plus 1 Youth Waterfowl Hunting Day

**Season Dates:** October 4-8 (Black Duck closed)  
October 20 Youth Waterfowl Hunting Day  
Nov. 17-Dec 1  
Dec. 8-Jan 26

**Bag Limit:** Daily Bag limit of 5 ducks which may include no more than 4 mallards (which may include no more than 2 hen mallards), 4 scoters, 2 redheads, 2 wood ducks, 2 scaup, 2 canvasback, 1 pintail, 1 black duck (except closed during Oct. 4-Oct. 8), 1 mottled duck, and 1 fulvous whistling duck. Closed season on Harlequin duck. The possession limit is twice the daily bag limit.

**\*Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days**

**Guidelines for the proposed Youth Day include:**

1. States may select 2 days per duck-hunting zone, designated as “Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days,” in addition to their regular duck seasons.
2. The 2 days must be consecutive hunting days and held outside of any regular duck season on a weekend, holiday, or other non-school days when youth hunters would have the maximum opportunity to participate.
3. The days could be held up to 14 days before or after any regular duck season frameworks or within any split of a regular duck season.

4. The daily bag limit is the same as that allowed in the regular season and includes ducks, mergansers, coots, moorhens, gallinules, 2 Canada goose, and 1 tundra swan (if the youth possesses a tundra swan permit). Flyway species restrictions remain in effect.
5. Youth hunters must be 15 years of age or younger. Youth 12 years of age and older will need a valid Virginia state hunting license.
6. A licensed adult at least 18 years of age or older must accompany the youth hunter into the field. This adult may not duck hunt, but may participate in other open seasons.

## **MERGANSER SEASONS**

### **Federal Framework**

#### **Option A**

**Season Length:** 60 hunting days

**Outside Date:** September 22-January 27

**Bag Limit:** 5 birds daily, of which only 2 birds may be a hooded merganser (10 in possession, only 4 of which may be hooded mergansers)

#### **Option B**

To be included into the general duck bag. If included in the general duck bag, the restriction on 2 hooded mergansers would apply.

#### **Staff Recommendations:**

##### **Option A**

**Season dates:** To coincide with general duck season

**Bag Limit:** 5 birds daily, of which only 2 birds may a hooded merganser (10 in possession, only 4 of which may be hooded mergansers)

**SPECIAL SEA DUCK SEASON  
IN SEA DUCK ZONE\*\***

**Federal Framework**

**SEA DUCKS-(SCOTER, LONG-TAILED DUCK, AND EIDER)**

**Season Length:** 107 hunting days

**Outside Dates:** September 15-January 27

**Bag Limit:** 7 Birds per day (14 in possession), but may include no more than 4 scoters (8 in possession).

**Staff Recommendations:**

**SEA DUCKS (SCOTER, LONG-TAILED DUCK, AND EIDER)**

**Season Dates:** October 4-January 26

**Bag Limit:** 7 birds per day (14 in possession), but may include no more than 4 scoters (8 in possession)

**\*\*Sea Duck Zone:** Those waters at a distance greater than 800 yards from any shore, island or emergent vegetation in the following area: the ocean waters of Virginia, the tidal waters of Northampton and Accomack Counties, and the Chesapeake Bay and each of its tributaries up to the first highway bridge. Back Bay and its tributaries are not included in the Sea Duck Zone.

**COOT, GALLINULE & MOORHEN SEASONS**

**Federal Framework**

**COOT:**

**Season Length:** 60 hunting days

**Outside Dates:** September 22-January 27

**Bag Limit:** 15 birds daily (30 in possession)



**GALLINULE/MOORHEN:**

**Season Length:** 70 hunting days  
**Outside Dates:** September 1-January 27  
**Bag Limit:** 15 daily (30 in possession)

**Staff Recommendations**

**COOT:**

**Season Dates:** To coincide with general duck season  
**Bag Limit:** 15 daily (30 in possession)

**GALLINULE/MOORHEN:**

**Season Dates:** To coincide with general duck season  
**Bag Limit:** 15 daily (30 in possession)

**CANADA GOOSE SEASON**

**Federal Framework**

**WESTERN ZONE:**

**Outside Dates and Season Lengths:**

**Regular Season:** November 15-January 14 (up to 40 hunting days)  
**Extended Season:** January 15-February 15

## **ATLANTIC POPULATION ZONE:**

### **Outside Dates and Season Length:**

Atlantic Population Zone      November 15-January 31 (up to 45 hunting days)

### **Split Season Options:**

Atlantic Population Zone      2-way split season

### **Bag Limit:**

Atlantic Population Zone      2 geese per day

## **BACK BAY\***

**Outside Dates and Season Length:** Must be held during the last 30 days of Virginia's Atlantic Population Zone Season

### **Split Season Options:**

None

### **Bag Limit:**

2 goose per day

\*Back Bay Hunt area description: The waters of Back Bay and its tributaries and the marshes adjacent thereto, and on the land and marshes between Back Bay and the Atlantic Ocean from Sandbridge to the North Carolina line, and on and along the shores of North Landing River and the marshes adjacent thereto, and on and along the shores of Binson Inlet Lake (formerly known as Lake Tecumseh) and Red Wing Lake and the marshes adjacent thereto.

## **CANADA GOOSE SEASON**

### **Staff Recommendations**

## **WESTERN ZONE:**

### **Season Dates:**

#### **Regular Season:**

November 17-December 1  
December 15-January 14

#### **Extended Season:**

January 15-February 15

### **Bag Limit:**

2 geese/day: Nov. 17-Dec 1 and Dec.15-Jan. 14  
5 geese/day: Jan 15-Feb 15

### **Shooting Hours:**

1/2 – hour before sunrise until sunset daily

## **ATLANTIC POPULATION ZONE:**

<b><u>Season Dates:</u></b>	November 17-December 1 December 21-January 26
<b><u>Bag Limit:</u></b>	2 geese per day
<b><u>Shooting Hours:</u></b>	1/2 - hour before sunrise until sunset daily

## **BACK BAY:**

<b><u>Season Dates:</u></b>	December 24-January 26
<b><u>Bag Limit:</u></b>	2 geese per day
<b><u>Shooting Hours:</u></b>	1/2 – hour before sunrise until sunset daily

## **SNOW GOOSE AND ATLANTIC BRANT SEASON**

### **Federal Framework**

## **SNOW GOOSE:**

<b><u>Season Length:</u></b>	107 hunting days
<b><u>Outside Dates:</u></b>	October 1-March 10
<b><u>Split Season Option:</u></b>	3-way split season
<b><u>Bag Limit:</u></b>	15 birds daily (no possession limit)

## **ATLANTIC BRANT:**

<b><u>Season Length:</u></b>	50 hunting days
<b><u>Outside Dates:</u></b>	September 22-January 31
<b><u>Split Season Option:</u></b>	2-way split season
<b><u>Bag Limit:</u></b>	2 birds daily (4 in possession)

**Staff Recommendations**

**SNOW GOOSE:**

**Season Dates:** November 1-December 1  
December 8-March 10

**Bag Limit:** 15 birds daily (no possession limit)

**ATLANTIC BRANT:**

**Season Dates:** November 24-December 1  
December 8-January 26

**Bag Limit:** 2 birds daily (4 in possession)

**TUNDRA SWAN SEASON**

**Federal Framework**

**TUNDRA SWAN:**

**Season Length:** 90 hunting days

**Outside Dates:** October 1-January 31; State agency may issue up to 600 permits in Virginia and must obtain harvest and hunter participation data. Each permittee is authorized to take one (1) tundra swan per season.

**Bag Limit:** One per permittee per season

**Staff Recommendations:**

**Season Dates:** December 1-January 31

**Bag Limit:** One per permittee per season

Hunt Area: All counties and portions of counties lying east of U. S. Route I-95 and south of the Prince William/Stafford County line in Chopawamsic Creek at Quantico Marine Corps Base.

**Note:** The Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) will issue no more than 600 swan hunting permits to holders of a valid Virginia hunting license. Only hunters with a valid 2007-2008 tundra swan hunting permit issued by VDGIF shall be authorized to hunt tundra swans. Each permittee will be authorized to take one tundra swan during the season. Swan hunting permits are non-transferable and are valid for use only by the person to whom issued. Permits must be in the immediate possession of the permittee while swan hunting. Immediately at the time and place of kill, successful hunters must cancel their swan-hunting permit by permanently recording the month and day of kill and by attaching it to the swan as instructed on the permit. The VDGIF is required to obtain hunter participation and harvest information to offer this Tundra Swan hunting season. Hunters are required to complete the accompanying tundra swan hunt questionnaire and return it to the address listed on the questionnaire at the end of our hunt. Those who fail to return a completed questionnaire by February 15, 2008 are ineligible for future drawings.

## **FALCONRY**

### **Federal Framework**

<b><u>Season Length:</u></b>	107 hawking days Not to exceed three segments in any extended season outside the regular season.
<b><u>Outside Dates:</u></b>	September 1 – March 10
<b><u>Bag Limit:</u></b>	3 daily (6 in possession)
<b><u>Notes:</u></b>	Federal Law does not permit Falconry for waterfowl on Sunday

### **Staff Recommendations:**

<b><u>Season Length:</u></b>	107 hawking days No combination of falconry and firearms hunting can exceed 107 days for any species.
<b><u>Bag Limit:</u></b>	3 daily
<b><u>Season Dates:</u></b>	Recommended dates based on adoption of preceding proposals; if amended, staff requests permission to calculate permissible dates for each species within the allowable federal framework.

## **DUCKS, MERGANSERS, COOTS, MOOREHENS AND GALLINULES:**

**Season Dates:** October 4-8  
November 17-February 29

## **CANADA GOOSE:**

**Season Dates:** November 17-February 15

## **BRANT and SNOW GOOSE:**

**Season Dates:** November 1 – December 1  
December 8-March 10

## **Public Comments:**

Mr. W. F. Wade, Spotsylvania, Virginia, represented the L. O. C. S. Chapter Waterfowl, USA. Mr. Wade spoke in favor of the staff's recommendation of Option A for the Merganser Seasons. He thanked the Wildlife staff and Board for their hard work.

Mr. Robert P. Woolfolk, Bumpass, Virginia, stated he agreed with the regulations as presented and withdrew his request to speak.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their remarks.

**The Chairman called for a motion on the approval of the Migratory Bird and Waterfowl Seasons 2007-2008. Mr. Montgomery made the following motion: Mr. Chairman, I move that the Board adopt the 2007-2008 Waterfowl Seasons and Bag Limits and the Falconry Seasons as presented by the staff and to further authorize staff to modify seasons and bag limits if necessary to comply with established Federal Frameworks. Motion seconded by Mr. Stroup. Ayes: Hazel, Railey, Greer, Montgomery, Hill, Kozuch, Yates, Crumley, Stroup and Pollard.**

**Approval of the Minutes:** The minutes of the July 17, 2007 meeting have been posted to the Web, and copies were included in the Board member's briefing materials. Chairman Hazel called for any additions, changes, corrections, deletions, modifications, etc. **Ms. Crumley made the motion that the minutes of the meeting be approved with a few minor spelling corrections that will be submitted to the Board Secretary. Motion Seconded by Mr. Yates. Ayes: Hazel, Railey, Greer, Montgomery, Hill, Kozuch, Crumley, Yates, Stroup and Pollard.**

**Committee Reports:** The Chairman stated that there have not been any committee meetings since July. The Chairman announced the following committee chair assignments for 2007: Mr. C. T. Hill, Chairman, Finance, Audit and Compliance Committee; Mr. Richard Railey, Chairman, Education, Planning and Outreach

Committee; Mr. John Montgomery, Chairman, Wildlife and Boat Committee. A committee list has been distributed to the members of the Board.

Mr. Hill, Chairman of the Finance, Audit and Compliance Committee asked Dr. Virgil Kopf to give a brief end of year report for Fiscal Year 2007. Mr. Hill stated that some of the financial issues ahead for Fiscal Year 2008 are: budget cuts, recruitment and retention of Law Enforcement Officers and capital improvement projects.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Hill and the staff for their report.

**Chairman's Remarks:** Mr. Hazel expressed concern over the recruitment and retention of Law Enforcement Officers. The presence of Conservation Police Officers in the community directly relates to the public's awareness of this agency through boating safety, hunting, fishing and other programs. Mr. Hazel attended the meeting of the National Sportsmen's Caucus and has been invited by the Caucus to attend their annual meeting to be held in November.

**Director's Remarks:** Mr. Courter introduced Mrs. Angele Goff. Mrs. Goff serves as Confidential Secretary to the Director. Mr. Courter stated that the Governor has asked all state agencies to look at a 5% percent budget cut. An update will be provided at the October 16, 2007 meeting. The agency continues to receive guidance on this process. Mr. Courter and the staff provided a budget briefing to the Secretary of Natural Resources. He visited the Hunter Education Class at Holiday Lake 4H Center in Appomattox. Mr. Courter and staff provided a tour along the James River and briefing for various congressional members on the Agency's wildlife conservation efforts. Mr. Courter spoke to the mounted fox hunters in Albemarle County. He attended the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Outdoor Sportsman's show recently held at the Showplace in Richmond and he is looking forward to attending the Outdoor Sportsman's Show in Roanoke next year.

Mr. Courter introduced Bob Duncan who introduced Dr. Steve McMullin. Dr. McMullin will lead our Hound Hunting Study Proposal. Mr. Duncan provided brief bios on Drs. McMullin and Parkhurst and he also stated that the technical committee for the Hound Hunting Study Proposal has been formed.

Dr. Steve L. McMullin is Associate Department Head and Associate Professor of Fisheries and Wildlife at Virginia Tech. Before coming to Virginia Tech to pursue his doctorate in wildlife sciences in 1989, Steve was assistant director of the fisheries division with Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks. His academic and professional interests include leadership and administration in natural resource agencies, public involvement in resource decision making, and human dimensions of fisheries and wildlife. Steve directed the public involvement processes for the VDGIF Deer and Bear Management Plans.

Dr. James A. Parkhurst, Wildlife Extension Specialist and Associate Professor of Fisheries and Wildlife at Virginia Tech. His academic and professional interests include wildlife damage management, habitat management and manipulation, and community-based solutions to human-wildlife conflicts. Jim worked closely with VDGIF on their

Deer and Bear Management Plans, serving on a planning committee and providing external reviews on the draft plans.

In collaboration with VDGIF, Drs. McMullin and Parkhurst will lead the public involvement process to address hunting with hounds in Virginia. They will facilitate meetings (focus groups, stakeholders advisory committee, public meetings, etc.), coordinate a brief survey, and provide human dimensions guidance throughout the process. Steve and Jim will supervise a full-time research associate, with expertise in public involvement and conflict resolution, dedicated to this process.

Dr. McMullin thanked the Board and staff for the opportunity to work on the Hunting with Hounds Proposal.

The Chairman thanked the Board members that attended the Outdoor Sportsman's Show.

Ms. Crumley recommended that Board Members write a brief paragraph on themselves and their qualifications to be placed on the Website. The Chairman and members of the Board stated they were all committed to serving on the Board and preserving the outdoors.

**Additional Comments:** Mr. Yates expressed concern about the response and follow-up regarding issues presented to the Board during the meeting. The Chairman will work with the Director and staff to develop a better process. The Chairman will provide an update at the October Meeting.

**At 11:16 a.m. Mr. Yates made the following Closed Session Motion: Mr. Chairman, I move that the Board go into a closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711.A.3 of the Code of Virginia for discussion or consideration with respect to a land acquisition at the following location: Wythe County. Motion Seconded by Mr. John Montgomery. Ayes: Hazel, Railey, Greer, Montgomery, Hill, Kozuch, Yates, Stroup, Pollard and Crumley.**

**At 11:45 a. m. Mr. Yates made the following Certification: Mr. Chairman, I certify that whereas the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, and whereas Section 2.2-3712.D of the Code requires a certification by this Board that such a meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law: now, therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries hereby certifies that(1) to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Board. I so move. Certification seconded by Ms. Pollard. Ayes: Hazel, Railey, Greer, Montgomery, Hill, Kozuch, Yates, Stroup, Pollard and Crumley.**



**Ms. Crumley made the following motions: I move that the Board authorize the director to proceed to exchange approximately 100 acres of land in Wythe County, Virginia, and such exchange shall be compatible with our mission and according to applicable state procedures. Motion Seconded by Mr. Railey. Ayes: Hazel, Railey, Greer, Montgomery, Hill, Kozuch, Yates, Stroup, Pollard and Crumley.**

The Chairman announced the October 16, 2007 Meeting. Mr. Hazel reminded the Board that a quorum will be needed to approve the final regulations.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:49a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth B. Drewery  
Board Secretary